MINUTES

—OF THE—

Ninth Annual Session

—OF THE—

TROY ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—

Shiloh Church, Pike County, Ala.,

SEPTEMBER 9, 1892.

W. H. BARNETT, - - - - MODERATOR,
J. P. WOOD, - - - - - CLERK,
M. A. WOOD, - - - - TREASURER.

1893:
MESSENGER PRINT,
Troy, Ala.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Association called to order by Moderator.
2. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
3. Introductory Sermon.
4. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
5. Visiting brethren invited to seats.
6. Receive petitions from churches desiring membership.
7. Appoint committees to report during session—
   - On religious Exercises.
   - On Finance and Auditing
   - On Documents and Requests.
   - On Nominations.
8. Call for Correspondence.
9. Read Rules of Order.
10. Hear Reports from Committees and Treasurer.
11. Return Correspondence.
12. Appoint Committees to report next meeting—
    - On Home and State Missions.
    - On Foreign Missions.
    - On Sabbath Schools.
    - On Temperance.
    - On Education.
    - On Bible and Colportage.
    - On Indigent Ministers.
13. Hear Miscellaneous Business.
14. Call Roll and erase absentees.
15. Arrange for printing minutes.
16. Correct minutes and adjourn.

MINUTES.

The Ninth Annual Session of the Troy Association met with Shiloh Church September 9th, 1892. After an informal session and devotional exercises, conducted by Elder J. L. Youngblood, consuming the morning hours, the association adjourned to 2:30 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Brother W. H. Barnett, former Moderator, called Association to order. In the absence of the former Clerk, Brother J. P. Wood was elected Clerk pro tem. Letters from Shiloh, Orion, Olustee and Troy First Baptist Churches were read by the Clerk.

The following Committee on Credentials was appointed, viz: Elder J. L. Youngblood, N. A. Adams and W. A. Morrison, who reported as follows:

Delegates from Shiloh Church:—M. A. Wood, R. B. Parks, W. G. Carlisle, Thos. McDowell, J. R. Turner, C. J. Mahoney, Samuel Fleming and J. H. Wood.

Olustee Church:—W. H. Barnett, W. A. Morrison, J. W. Carter.

Orion Church:—Duncan Graham and N. A. Adams.

Troy First Baptist Church:—Elders J. F. Purser, A. N. Worthy, J. L. Youngblood, L. H. Bowles, and Brothers J. P. Wood, J. D. Murphree, W. S. Coleman and B. W. Starke.

On motion of Elder A. N. Worthy the temporary officers were made permanent, viz: W. H. Barnett, Moderator; J. P. Wood, Clerk; M. A. Wood, Treasurer.

The Moderater, in appropriate remarks, returned thanks for continued confidence.

The Moderater announced the following committees to report at this session:

Documents—A. N. Worthy, B. W. Starke and W. S. Coleman.

Finance—M. A. Wood, S. Flemming and D. Graham.

Nominations—J. D. Murphree, R. B. Parks and J. R. Turner.

Sunday Schools—M. A. Wood, W. S. Coleman and W. A. Morrison.

Foreign Missions—A. N. Worthy, J. F. Purser and D. Graham.

Bible and Colportage—J. F. Purser, J. D. Murphree and N. A. Adams.

Home and Foreign Missions—L. H. Bowles, J. F. Youngblood and B. W. Starke.

Education—E. M. Shackelford, C. J. Mahony and W. A. Adams.

Temperance—J. D. Murphree, S. Fleming and R. B. Parks.

Religious Exercises—M. A. Wood, R. B. Parks and W. G. Carlisle.

Indigent Ministers—J. L. Youngblood, J. H. Wood and S. Fleming.

Correspondence was called for.

Elder W. A. Cumbie responded from the Geneva Association.

On motion of Dr. Worthy correspondence was proposed to

Geneva Association. Elder J. L. Youngblood was named as the delegate.

CORRESPONDENTS APPOINTED.

Salem Association—Elder J. F. Purser, Brother J. D. Murphree.

Centennial Association—W. S. Coleman, D. Graham, B. W. Starke, W. H. Barnett.

Montgomery Association—W. H. Barnett, J. A. Dennis, J. M. Carter.

Eufaula Association—J. P. Wood, F. S. Wood.

On motion, thirty minutes of morning session be spent in Devotional exercises.

Adjourned to 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

The introductory sermon preached by Elder John F. Purser to a highly appreciative audience; we trust much good was accomplished thereby. The sermon was a very able one.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Devotional exercises conducted by Brother Cumbie.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Motion by Brother J. D. Murphree to print Constitution and By-Laws and Order of Business in forth-coming minutes. Carried.

HOME AND STATE MISSIONS.

The report of the Committee on Home and State Missions was read by the Chairman and adopted:

REPORT.

Your Committee to whom has been assigned the duty of reporting on Home and State Missions, are glad to report that both causes are still making some progress.

In the absence of any data we will not attempt to give a detailed account of the work, nor the statistics of the same since our last meeting.

The Home Mission Board while pushing the work already in hand, are, we learn, contemplating new fields of special effort. New Orleans, that great city of vice and Godlessness, is especially attracting the attention of this Board and a movement is being inaugurated by which our Baptist denomination will be very ably represented there in a short while.

The work in Cuba is progressing finely and at the present rate of progress in that Island, it will soon be taken for our blessed Lord.

Our State Mission Board have done a good year's work, and we have only the suggestion to offer that they be furnished with more money.

It might be well to suggest here that quite a number of our country churches are languishing on account of not having regular stated services, and a few of them are without pastors. This is frequently caused for want of better acquaintance between the ministers of our denominations and the churches and this might be greatly facilitated by our state Board keeping a registry of the ministers in the state—their residences and churches in charge, and furnishing this information to such churches as may be without pastors, or furnishing to such ministers as may be be without churches with names of such churches as may be without pastors.

L. H. Bowles, Ch'm.
B. W. Starke,
J. L. Youngblood.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was read by Brother J. F. Purser. After a full and free discussion participated in by Brothers Purser, Youngblood, Starke, Worthy, Copeland, it was adopted:

REPORT.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to say that it is impossible to present such a report as its great importance demands; not for lack of material from which to cull important and interesting facts, but to attempt to do so, would necessarily exclude it from your printed minutes, as it would require too much space, therefore one must be contented with such an abridgement as the circumstances demand, and hoping that what may be found in this report will be acceptable to your body and profitable withal.

First—The churches in their organized capacity on the scriptural plan are charged with the responsibility of evangelizing the whole world, nor can this obligation be shifted or in anywise evaded without incuring guilt and sin. All the means for the accomplishment of this grand purpose of the great head of the church are not left to conjecture. The Bible is replete with instructions, which were understood and acted upon by the first churches. After a few centuries, the reign of persecution was so terrible that the churches had a hard struggle for their very existence and lives, consequently the Mission work done by them in former years was suspended or feebly maintained for very many generations, until about one hundred years ago the spirit of modern Missions sprung up. Since this awakening the churches now seem to have, in a measure, thrown off

their lethargy and are again coming up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Second—At the time above indicated, the Holy Spirit found in one of the English churches William Carey, whom He doubtless called and qualified (with as much certainty as was the Apostle Paul to his great work) to open up and lead the way towards the evangelization of the world. So Carey gathered about him men of like faith and trust, and they formed themselves into the first Mission Society of modern times, and Carey was its first Missionary. Likewise did the Lord call from America the sainted Judson and others to labor in the heathen lands. These men of God in the beginning of their work labored under incalculable difficulties and hardships, which we cannot understand at this distance of time and place. We may have some appreciation of their trials, if we consider that they had to learn to speak the language of the heathen, translate the scripture into their tongue, suffer persecutions and imprisonment for assailing the gods of heathens, etc. No wonder that they had to endure and labor for more than a dozen years before a single convert. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord * * * their works do follow them." This brings us to look and see what results have grown out of apparently unpromising and small beginnings.

Third—This part of this report will be held in grateful remembrance by every lover of Jesus, which may be regarded as nearly accurate as human industry and carefulness could attain to, and may be found in the Independent, a religious newspaper, whose columns show no extraordinary veneration to the Baptist. In its issue of January 21st, 1892, last, it gives five columns of "General Statistics of Missions," being the latest returns of all the Protestant Missionary Societies of the world. These statistics, well studied, will force the conclusion that

"The morning light is breaking
And the darkness disappears."

	MISSIONARIES.	CHURCHES.	MEMBERS
The American Board.....	512	380	36,921
Amer. Baptist Mission Union	362	681	76,603
Methodist Church.....	389	327	34,574
Presbyterian Church (North)	498	202	18,011
Missionaries altogether.....	1,761	1,592	166,109

That it may be seen "what great things the Lord has done for us, whereof we are glad."

Your committee points with pardonable pride, but with no denominal exultation, how far the Baptist exceeds in membership the

other denominations. Who can tell what wonderful results will be accomplished by these workers for Jesus in the next decade.

Reports from the Mission fields fn India are not only encouraging, but surprising. Dr. Penticost, who has been on a visit to his old home, states the condition of affairs in his Mission to be most prosperous. Of course he speaks understandingly. His exact words are here copied, and are as follows, viz: "It will no doubt be a matter of surprise to many for me to say, that the burning question today in India in all Missionary circles is not how shall we multiply conversions." Strange, is it not? But he continues, "But how shall we overtake with Christian training and instruction those who are pouring in upon us faster than we have teachers to care for them." He is imploring the churches to send forth more laborers into this field of three hundred millions of souls, and he firmly believes the field is "white unto the harvest." No wonder that such reports should spring the energies of God's people and determine them to make strong efforts in this Centennial year to place in the field one hundred additional laborers. Respectfully submitted.

A. N. Worthy, Chairman,
John F. Purser,
D. Graham.

NOMINATIONS.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was read and adopted:

REPORT.

Your Committee on Nominations beg leave to make the following report:

To Preach the Introductory Sermon.—Brother L. H. Bowles, J. F. Purser, alternate.

To Preach on Missions.—Brother J. L. Youngblood.

Delegates to attend State Convention.—Brothers J. F. Purser L. H. Bowles, J. L. Youngblood, W. H. Barnett, J. M. Carter, J. S, Yarbrough, N. A. Adams, M. A. Wood, Sam Flemming and A. N. Worthy.

To Attend the Southern Baptist convention Brother J. F. Purser, P. L. Mosely, alternate.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joel D. Murphree, Ch'm.

REPORT ON DECEASED AND INDIGENT MINISTERS.

The report of the Committee on Deceased and Indigent Ministers was read and adopted:

REPORT.

Your Committee is happy to report that death has not visited the ranks of our Ministers the past year; nor are any of them in need of special material aid from this body.

JOHN L. YOUNGBLOOD, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read, and pending adoption, we enjoyed admirable addresses by Brothers Murphree and D. I. Purser, of Birmingham. On motion Brother Murphree's address was requuested for publication in the Alabama Baptist.

REPORT.

Your Committee on Temperance make the following report:

That, As an Association of Baptists, we recognize the sad fact that the liquor traffic is among, if not the worst foe to our homes, to the Church, to our country, to christianity and to civilization. That it causes poverty, promotes crimes, fosters immorality, generates disease, destroys life, increases public expense and corrupts politics.

Resolved, That to protect and encourage the whiskey traffic in any manner in our midst, is to imperil the peace and happiness of our families, to disgrace our profession, and to threaten the destruction of our civil institution. That it is the duty of good people everywhere, especially the Church, to use their influence to suppress this great evil. JOEL D. MURPHREE, Chairman.

The Association then adjourned to 3:00 o'clock p. m.

BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE.

The report of the Committee on Bible and Corportage was read and adopted without provoking any special comment:

REPORT.

Your Committee on Bible and Colportage has but little to report Bro. Newman, the only colporter that is doing any work within the bounds of this association, has rendered efficient service in the dissemination of Bibles and religious books and tracts. His labors are not confined to Troy associations, but he goes wherever he feels that good can be accomplished in scattering the words of truth in South-east Alabama. It is a noble work in which he is engaged and should be encouraged. The Alabama Baptist, our State paper, has a

large and increasing circulation and is doing an immense amount of good in furnishing its readers with information of what is being done by our denomination all over the State. It is a paper that should be read by every Baptist in the State. The Southern Baptist Convention, whose duty it is to furnish Sunday School literature, is now getting out a new series, which we feel assured will be an improvement on the old Kind Word literature used in former years

J. F. PURSER, Chairman.

Adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read and adopted.

REPORT:

Your Committee find, upon investigation, that there are only two churches that maintain Sunday Schools regularly. That one other church, (Olustee,) unite with the Methodist in their Sunday School work and that it is controlled by the Methodist denomination, and that Shiloh church, for want of interest in the work, has failed to have a school for the first year in several. It has been the observation of your Committee that a large per cent of the ingatherings of the church where Sunday Schools have been kept up has been from this source. That they yield more readily to the invitations of the gospel and through this working influence they give more liberally to the demands of the cause. We recommend this as a fruitful field for the working christians and as a place where all can work that have a mind to work. M. A. WOOD, Chairman.

FINANCE.

The report of the Committee on Finance was read and adopted:

REPORT.

TROY CHURCH.

For minutes	$ 10 00
Pastor's salary	1,500 00
Missions	800 00
Sunday school collection	150 00
Incidental expenses	150 00
Ministerial education	100 00
Dr. Hale's church	85 00
Ladies Aid Society	00 —

ORION CHURCH.

For Missions	8 00
For minutes	1 50
Pastor's salary	200 00
Sunday school	7 00 —

OLUSTEE CHURCH.

Olustee church (subscribed)	10	00
For minutes	1	00
For Missions	00	—

SHILOH CHURCH.

For Missions	00	
For minutes	3	50 —

Respectfully submitted. D. GRAHAM, Chairman.

EDUCATION,

The report of the Committee on Education was read and adopted.

BROTHER MODERATOR:—

Your committee on Education beg to submit the following report:

REPORT.

We find upon investigation that all of the schools of our denominations have been fairly successful during the past year. The seminary at Louisville Kentucky, which began its career years ago with five matriculates, had upon its rolls the past year more than two hundred and fifty students; Dr. Jno. A. Broadus and his band of devoted co-laborers, are evidently doing a grand and glorious work. The attendance at Howard College, though good, was not so large as it was the year previous; but under all the circumstances Dr. Riley and his able faculty did well to enroll as many students as they did—about two hundred. Our female institute, the Judson, has had its capacity taxed to accommodate the hundred and sixty-nine noble young ladies who matriculated last session, its worthy President, Brother S. W. Averett is a competent energetic educator and deserves the rich success that has so far crowned his efforts.

It is a source of congratulation to us that the Baptist of America have so rapidly risen from the bottom to the top of the list in this work of denominational education. It is estimated that we have endowments alone to the amount of thirteen million dollars, having increased within about twenty-five years from three million dollars and this estimate does not include a large amount invested in school property, such as buildings, grounds, etc. In addition to this, comes the crowning proposition to endow a first-class Baptist University at Chicago, with at least ten million dollars, a consummation devoutly to be wished for.

In commending this work of our denomination, it is not to be supposed that we imply any hostility to other schools; for we appreciate the good work the good work they are doing; but we further recognize the fact that there is room for all, that all have a work to perform, that the work of each class of schools must be sup-

plemented to that of all the others. Then, let us as Christians, not fight one another but join in with every other agency that is laboring for the upbuilding of God's kingdom in this world and fights its enemies, ignorance and vice and superstition.]

Respectfully submitted,

E. M. SHACKELFORD, Ch'm.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator.

DOCUMENTS.

The report of the Committee on Documents was read and adopted.

REPORT.

Your Committee on Documents offer the following report: We find nothing of interest claiming the attention of the Association. We find in their letter [Orion church asking that next session be held with them, but the delegates representing that church have kindly consented to withdraw their application in favor of Troy church and they recommend that the next session be held with said Troy church at the usual time of holding the same on Friday before the second Sunday in August. Respectfully submitted,

A. N. WORTHY, Chairman.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT NEXT SESSION.

Bible and Colportage:—J. D. Murphree, R. B. Parks and J. A. Dennis.

Foreign Missions:—A. N. Worthy, D. Graham and J. F. Purser.

Sunday Schools:—B. W. Starke, S. Flemming and N. A. Adams.

Temperance:—G. W. Andrews, J. M. Carter and M. W. Pennington.

Home and State Missions:—L. H. Bowles, J. S. Yarbrough and J. H. Wood.

Education:—E. M. Shackelford, J. M. Carter and M. A. Wood.

Bro. Younblood offered the following resolutions: "That the thanks of the body be tendered this Church and community for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained this Association and the visitors." Carried.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

Bro. Cumbie to preach Saturday night; Bro. D. I. Purser, of Birmingham, to preach Sunday at 11 o'clock a. m.; Elder J. F Purser at 3 o'clook p. m.]

The Association adjourned to meet with Troy church, Friday before the second Sabbath in August, 1893.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

This Union of Churches shall be denominated the Troy Association, and shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our Union, who, on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats. The letters so produced shall express the condition of their churches, respectively, viz: The members received by baptism, letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead, since the last Association, and also moneys contributed to the various denominational interests, which letter shall be read and the delegates' names enrolled.

Article II.

The Association shall annually, upon convening, proceed to choose from the members present, a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.

Section 1. The Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of the body and appoint all committees unless otherwise ordered.

Sec. 2. The Clerk shall keep and preserve on file for the use of each session, a correct minute of the proceedings of this Association, and shall attend to the printing and distributing of the same.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer shall safely keep all moneys paid to him by the Association, or otherwise, and pay the same only on order of the Association, and take receipts for the same.

Article III.

Each Church shall be entitled to three delegates and when its membership exceeds fifty, then one for each twenty-five or fractional part thereof.

Article IV.

Any church applying for membership may be admitted into this Union on sending their delegates to any meeting with a petition and by those delegates agreeing to the abstract of principles and the Constitution adopted by this Association. Said church to be received by a unanimous vote and the right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator.

Article V.

At each session a committee shall be appointed to select brethren to address the next session on the following subjects: Missions, Sunday Schools, Education, and Temperance.

Article VI.

This Association shall have no power to interfere or infringe upon the internal rights and privileges of the churches, and shall pass no resolutions touching the liberty of the churches, or individual members thereof. But each church shall be considered a sovereign and independent body.

ARTICLE VII.

There shall be no matter of dealing introduced by any individual member but it shall be sent up by a church or churches clearly set forth in writing. Then the Association may take it under con, sideration and a decision by a majority shall be an advisory answer

ARTICLE VIII.

Any church may at any session make application for dismissal, and if said application is refused, then may withdraw at her own discretion.

ARTICLE IX.

It shall be the duty of this Association to encourage the work of Sunday Schools, education, temperance, and all missionary enterprises fostered by our denomination.

ARTICLE X.

Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. At every annual meeting of this Association, immediately after the delegates' names are enrolled, tellers shall be appointed by the Chair, and the Association shall proceed to choose from among their number a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to hold their office until new ones are chosen.

2. The Moderator shall take the chair every day at the hour to which the Association shall have adjourned on the preceding day; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the minutes of the preceding day to be read.

3. He shall preserve order and decorum; may speak on points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association, by any two members, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Association.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. Questions shall be distinctly put; those voting in the affirmative shall say aye, and those of a contrary opinion no. If the Moderator doubts, or a division be called for, the delegates shall divide; those voting in the affirmative shall first arise from their seats, and afterwards those voting in the negative.

6. In all cases of election, the Moderator may vote; in other cases, he shall not vote, unless the body may be equally divided; in that event he shall give the casting vote. He may speak on any question, provided he shall call some other member to the chair while he is speaking.

7. When any member is about to speak or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully ad-

dress the Moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate and avoid personalities.

8. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call him to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down unless permitted to explain; and the Association shall, if appealed to, decide on the case, but without debate. If there be no appeal, the decision of the Chair shall be submitted to; if the decision be in favor of the member called to order he shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, he shall not be permitted to proceed, in case any member object, without leave of the Association.

9. When two or more members happen to rise at once the Moderator shall name the one who is to speak first.

10. No member shall speak more than once on the same question, without leave of the Association, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending, in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

11. Every member who shall be in the house when a question is put shall give his vote, unless the Association, for special reason, excuse him.

12. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Chair; or, being in writing, it shall be handed to the Moderator and read aloud before debated.

13. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Chair or any member desire it.

14. After a motion is stated by the Chair, or read aloud by the Clerk, if shall be deemed to be in possession of the body, but may be withdrawn, by leave of the Association, at any time before a decision or amendment.

15. When a question is under debate no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lie on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a day certain, commit, amend, to postpone indefinitely; which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged, and no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or postpone indefinitely, being decided, shall again be allowed during the session.

16. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except the Association be engaged in voting.

17. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate; and shall always be in order, except a member be speaking, or the body engaged in voting.

18. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after the motion is made for the previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

19. The previous question shall be in the form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; its effect shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the Association to a direct vote upon amendments reported by committee, if any; upon pending amendments, and then upon the main question.

20. No motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of amendment.

21. When a motion has been once made and carried, the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move a reconsideration thereof, on the same or succeeding business day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

22. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave of the Moderator; or leave the meeting without leave of the Association.

23. Should any member of the Association absent himself before the close of the session, without permission of the body, he shall be marked in the minutes as absent without leave.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. Of the Scriptures.—We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that its reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. Of the True God.—That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is Jehovah; the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all confidence and love; revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. Of the Fall of Man.—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgressions fell from that happy and holy state; in consequence of which all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satin and of their own sinful passions; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

IV. Of the Way of Salvation.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who took on him our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by His personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by His death; being risen from the dead He is now enthroned in Heaven and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and an all-sufficient Savior.

V. Of Jtstification.—That the great Gospel blessing, which Christ of His fulness bestowes on such as believe in Him, is justification; and justification consists in the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any work of righteousness which we have done, but solely through His own redemption and righteousness; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. Of the Freeness of Salvation.—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by cordial and obedient fath; and that

nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

VII. Of Grace in Regeneration.—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; and is affected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit we bring forth to the glory of God.

VIII. Of God's Purpose of Grace.—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sacrifices and saves sinners; that, being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospel; is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

IX. Of the Perseverance of Saints.—That such are only real believers as endure to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial profession; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

X. Harmony of the Law and Gospel.—Tuat the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just and good; that the inability which the Scripture ascribes to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them, through a mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XI. Of a Gospel Church.—That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and dues, are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XII. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.—That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer, in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified and risen Savior, with its purifying power; and that it is a prerequisite to the relatives of a church relation and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by self-examination.

XII. Of the Christian Sabbath.—That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of grace,

both private and public, and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

XIV. Of Civil Government.—That civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in the things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.

XV. Of the Righteous and the Wicked.—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impotence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XIV. Of the World to Come.—That the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from the heaven and raise the dead from the grave for final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	PASTOR.	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Dismissed by letter	Excommunicated	Dead	Total Membership	Associational purposes	Home and State Missions.	Foreign Missions	Church Improvement	Ministerial	Howard College	Pastors Salary	Dr. Hale's Church
Troy	J. F. Purser	17	12	12	2	..	346	$10.00	$ 150.	$ 800.	$1 000	$50.00	$100.	$1.500	$85.00
Shiloh	P. L. Moseley	16	7	13	2	2	167	3.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200.00	.....
Orion	P. L. Moseley	..	2	2	..	1	73	1 50	8.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.00	.....
Olustee	No Pastor	..	2	..	..	..	0	2.00	8 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....